

are from veterinarians that have clinics within thirty and forty miles of North Platte. Now I think that is a sad state of affairs for this Legislature to condone that type of thing and I think it is even a sadder state of affairs for our University to condone that type of thing and I guess what I am saying to the Board of Regents through this intent language is that, and I would hope the Legislature would agree with me, is that we are not going to condone that much longer. We think that is ridiculous. We think that you should take a little bit of your funds that you are using at the administrative level and put those funds out there where they will serve this industry that we have been told, and I thoroughly agree, is the largest growing industry in the State of Nebraska, the livestock industry in this state. So another part of the problem that I think I need to point out is that at the University here, the Veterinary Science Department, they have been understaffed by at least nine people and the support staff to go along with those nine people from their inception also. Now it seems to me that if we are going to be embarking on a program of expansion and help for the livestock industry in this state and to the future, whatever that may be into the future, whether it be a full-blown veterinarians school or whatever, that the time to start is now and the time to start is rather minor and I don't think a million dollars switched within the University's system is that impossible to do, so I urge this body's adoption of this amendment which would, in my opinion, help the livestock industry, the agricultural industry in this state as much as anything we could possibly do and get as big a return back on those dollars as we could possibly do. I should point out that diagnostic work done for, if I take it up myself or if my veterinarian takes it up, we pay for it. We pay something for it, so it is not all a dollar's loss situation as far as far as the state is concerned. We would be retaining a lot of those dollars that we are now presently sending to those out of state pathology departments, to those out of state diagnostic laboratories, plus the fact we would be doing the great service to the livestock industry and to our veterinarians out there that they should be able to get the results back much quicker and in the end would be able to provide a lot better service to the livestock industry. Now as far as research is concerned, it would certainly help in that area also and I've talked to Dr. Dickinson and he thoroughly agrees that the Veterinary Science Department desperately needs more funds. So this is an amendment that no matter what side of the issue that you are on on the veterinary complex, no matter what side of the issue you are on on whether or not we should or should not tell the Board of Regents or could or could not tell